

**Seneca Township High School District 160
Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
Superintendent's Conference Room**

Present: Ron Frye, Rich Hamilton, Jason Eltrevoog, Dan Stecken, Stacey Gould

- A. Public Comment - None

- B. Finance
 - 1. 2021 Levy and 2022-23 Budget
 - a. Stacey Gould reviewed the 2021 levy. The only small changes that have been made since the last presentation was asking for additional amounts in the Education and Transportation funds to ensure the full amount is captured. This plan asks for \$13.691M with an anticipated extension of \$12.782M once the district abates to the \$1.74838 tax rate. Compared to the prior year, this levy will see a decrease in IMRF and an increase in Tort.
 - b. Stacey also reviewed the big picture look at the FY 22-23 budget. No major changes have been made since the prior version was reviewed. Main points include the retirements of Kent Weber and Steve Haines as well as the O&M fund seeing increased expenditures due to numerous building projects with the majority of the funding coming from ESSER and maintenance grants. IMRF expenditures are also down with only \$50K in unfunded liability as of September of 2021.
 - 2. Jeschke Foundation & Agriculture Teacher
 - a. Dan Stecken presented some documents that gave the history of the Thomas Jeschke Fund and the various donations over the years that are related to Seneca High School. Documents were also given to Dan from Jeff Maierhofer that justified the importance of a teacher mentorship program and how it will enefit the Ag Ed. program at Seneca High School.
 - b. Dan discussed the agreement that the Jeschke Foundation is willing to pay 90% of the costs for the program with 10% coming from the Board of Education. Ron Frye, Rich Hamilton, and Jason Eltrevoog were all in favor of the idea but would like to discuss with the entire Board at the next Board meeting in January.

- C. Personnel
 - 1. Maintenance Director Job Description & Job Posting
 - a. Dan Stecken discussed the succession plan and the timeline for replacing retiring Maintenance Director Barry Buchanan. The plan is to post the job opening in December of 2021 with the hopes to interview in January/February of 2022. The new applicant would start in May with an official start date in the Director position on July 1, 2022. This would allow the new hire to utilize Barry as a mentor before his retirement.

- b. Dan also presented the updated job description with the addition of supervising the maintenance and custodial employees at night.
2. Agriculture Teacher Job Description & Job Posting - Dan Stecken reviewed the new Ag teacher job description that will be posted with a start date of July 1, 2022.
 3. Retirement Consideration - Dan presented a letter from Special Education faculty member Jackie Ugolini regarding her potential retirement. She is asking the Board to consider the 21-22 school year as her first year in the 4-year retirement process. Ron, Rich, and Jason all agreed to table the discussion until the next Board meeting in January.
 4. Non-Tenured Teachers - Dan mentioned that all teachers are doing well and that he is receiving many good reports. He noted that Mike Coughlin is growing as an evaluator and doing an excellent job. He also stated how new hires Eva Bruno and Taylor Schmidt are doing a fantastic job in their first year.
 5. Summer School - Dan reviewed the summer school schedule for next summer with all pay rates remaining the same.
 6. Athletic Trainer- Dan revisited the subject of the potential hire of an athletic trainer as a full-time trainer/maintenance worker for the school. The plan is to have the candidate spending about 70% of his time as a trainer and about 30% doing maintenance. Although ATI continues to raise their prices, we have not seen a new contract for next year. Ron, Rich, and Jason all agreed to wait to see what ATI presents in their new contract and possibly check with Athletico before making any further decisions.
 7. Employee Discipline - Dan discussed issues with a current employee and how it is affecting the climate where the employee currently works. This is not the first time this employee has had disciplinary issues or unsatisfactory evaluations. Dan discussed the options with attorney, Tom Melody, who stated a case needs to be continually built if the District is considering termination.
- D. Other- Dan updated the committee on the current COVID cases at the school. Currently there are 5 positive cases within the staff and 7 positive student cases. The upcoming wrestling tournament has been rescheduled due to this increase.
- E. Adjournment-The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.



President, Board of Education

12-15-2021
Date



Secretary, Board of Education

12-15-2021
Date